



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ANNUAL VAPOR RECOVERY TESTS



WHY MUST WE TEST?

Vapor-recovery systems are part of the state's efforts to meet federal clean-air rules, as mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In response to these requirements, State Law (ARS [41-2132](#)) requires the Director of the Arizona Department of Weights and Measures to establish an annual testing program for Stage I and II vapor recovery systems operated by service stations within the Phoenix Metropolitan non-attainment area. These rules help to ensure that you, your family, and more than three million Valley of the Sun residents have clean air to breathe. While this is our primary concern, it is important to note that failure to follow EPA's requirements could jeopardize the State's federal highway funding.

If you operate a service station within this area, you are required to have your vapor-recovery systems tested once a year, during the same month as the date of your last test. You determine the actual time and date of the test, in consultation with your Licensed Tester. The Arizona Department of Weights and Measures will witness the test. You are responsible for your vapor recovery systems, but the vapor recovery company you hire plays a critical role. The Department recently implemented previously approved rules to aid service station owners in this area. These changes resulted in the licensing of testers and a system to hold testers accountable for their performance. This provides station owners with improved performance indicators, allows the Department to hold the appropriate parties accountable, and gives testers a level playing field.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN

You must hire a Licensed Tester, someone certified by the Department, to test vapor recovery systems. If you do not already have a Licensed Tester on contract, visit the Department's website at www.azdwm.gov to find the latest list of approved Licensed Testing Companies (or VR Testers) under the Business – Vapor Recovery section of the website.

The Licensed Tester you retain may conduct a pre-test to determine the current status of your vapor-recovery systems, and recommend any repairs or adjustments that should be made to assure passage of the annual test. Once your vapor recovery systems are ready for annual testing, the Licensed Tester contacts the Department and schedules a date and time for an official test, which must be witnessed by a Weights and Measures Inspector. The Tester will inform you of the date and time. You should make sure that all equipment is ready for testing, and there is sufficient fuel in your system to conduct the test. You should be on-site for the test as well.

If your system passes, the Department Inspector will give you copies of a report determining that your system is operating properly. If some aspect of your system fails, the Inspector will give you a report stating which component failed to meet state standards. Your fuel delivery system will be taken out of service until the necessary repairs and adjustment are made, and a re-test determines that your system has been brought into compliance.

RESPONSIBILITIES

State Inspectors

- Show up promptly at the date and time for the test
- Witness the test
- Ensure the test is properly conducted
- Document test results
- Take appropriate measures to ensure compliance with clean-air rules.

Licensed Testers

- Ensure that the vapor-recovery system is ready for its annual test
- Schedule the date and time for the annual test
- Work with the service station owner-operator to ensure compliance

Service Station Operators

- Hire a Tester licensed by the Department
- Be present when the Annual Test is conducted
- Make sure all the required documents are available for the test, including:
 - Gasoline fuel delivery receipts
 - Device licenses
 - Daily inspection and maintenance logs
- Make sure all necessary repairs and adjustments are made
- Make sure the appropriate amount of fuel (60%) is in storage tanks at the time of testing
- Ensure that your Licensed Tester meets the obligation to have your equipment in proper working order before the annual test is scheduled.

Following these procedures should ensure prompt certification of your vapor recovery systems and prevent any unnecessary shutdowns of your fuel delivery system.